
AMERICAN LITERATURE: ENGLISH 2326

SPRING 2023

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Katherine (Kaytee) Jackson (she/her/hers)

Sections: English 2326.601

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Office Hours: Available by appointment: <https://calendly.com/katherine-jackson-1/office-hours-appointment?month=2022-01>

Course Description

This course is a study of selected significant works of American literature, and may include study of movements, schools, or periods.

Prerequisite: ENGL 1302

Course Purpose: English 2326 introduces students to some of the great works of American literature, from the Colonial Period through the present, which helped to shape modern literature, language, and culture. This course includes the general historical background, as well as the principles of literary criticism appropriate to the literature.

Core Objectives addressed:

- *Communications skills*—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- *Critical thinking skills*—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- *Social Responsibility*—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
- *Personal Responsibility*—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will:

1. Understand the distinguishing elements of non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama for the appropriate time period
2. Understand the major elements of literature that are highlighted by the instructor
3. Be able to discuss the distinguishing characteristics of American literary movements: Native Oral, Colonial, Revolutionary, Independence, Pre- and Post-Civil War, Late 19th, 20th Century Modern, and Post Modern literature and analyze literary works as expressions of individual or communal values within the social, political, cultural, or religious contexts of different literary periods.
4. Show an understanding and competent application of the elements of the writing process in all writing situations as developed in English 1301 and 1302
5. Show an understanding and refinement of the skills of expository and argumentative writing already developed in English 1301 and 1302

6. Apply critical thinking to the study of literature and to the writing of analytical essays
7. Use a library and relevant internet sources for research purposes
8. Research and write an accurately documented paper, using MLA style or other assigned documentation style
9. Participate in class discussions and group work over the literature in the course
10. Make constructive suggestions for others' work during peer critiques or presentations

Textbook & Supply Requirements

All texts and reading material for the course will be provided at no cost via open educational resources (OER) and PDFs via Blackboard.

Required Software & Materials

You will need access to a laptop or computer for this course to complete your writing activities and class assignments. Laptops will be available during class for your use; however, these cannot be taken home. If you need a personal device to use outside of class, you can request to borrow a Chromebook from the SPC Library. For more information, see:

<https://library.southplainscollege.edu/c.php?g=1021659&p=7400614>

In addition, the City of Lubbock Public Library System will allow you to check out various technology (WiFi hotspot, laptop, or tablet) with a free library card for Lubbock residents. For more information, see: <https://ci.lubbock.tx.us/departments/library/services>

You are required to have access to the following technologies:

- Blackboard
- Microsoft Word
- Device with audio and video recording capabilities
- High-speed internet connection

For digital project creation, a subscription to Canva is recommended, but not required. (Summer Courses note: If you sign-up for Canva Pro, you are given a 30-day free trial before your card will be charged, and this will allow you to use the Pro version for free for the entirety of the course. I highly recommend this option!)

Additional tools for digital media creation will be provided in the course, and all projects can be completed with various free or trial versions of these tools. No additional software purchases are necessary.

Communication

The best way to contact me is via email at kejackson@southplainscollege.edu. I will respond to emails as quickly as possible during regular business hours (M-F, 8-5). In the evenings and on the weekends, please allow up to 48 hours for a response. As I make every effort to be current and prompt with my email, I ask that you do the same. **You should check your official SPC email at least once per day.** I will send all course communications and important messages through SPC email. To protect your privacy as a student, I ask that all emails originate from your official SPC email address. I cannot guarantee that emails from a third-party account (Gmail, Yahoo, Hotmail,

etc.) will be read or responded to.

Attendance

This is an online, asynchronous course. There is no face-to-face component for the course. Your “attendance” is measured in course participation, including regularly accessing the course and completing assignments. Failure to participate in the course for a week or more may result in a drop from the course. You’re encouraged to log in to Blackboard at least once every 48 hours.

Grading Policy

Grades will be evaluated as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 and below).

Final grades are calculated as follows:

Quizzes	20%
Perusal Annotations	20%
Research Collection & Presentation	20%
Movie Poster Project	10%
Video Project	10%
Podcast Project	10%
Media Connections Essay	10%

General Guidelines for Major Projects

Written Assignments

Major papers should meet the guidelines of the assignment prompt and be properly formatted in MLA 9th edition. You are responsible for understanding and following MLA format and asking questions when needed. Here’s a quick overview: <https://www.scribbr.com/mla/formatting/>

All major written assignments should be submitted as Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx). File formats for multimedia are provided in the assignment guidelines for each one. Incorrectly submitted files, blank files, corrupted files, or submissions marked as “in progress” are counted late until properly submitted. Make sure you receive confirmation and a readable preview through Blackboard after submission.

Multimedia Projects

You will complete various multimedia projects over the semester including a Movie Poster, Infographic, Podcast, and Video. Some of these assignments may also have an accompanying written component. No special skills or equipment beyond a computer will be required to complete these projects, and you will be provided with all necessary tools and technology at no cost.

Late Assignment Policy for Major Projects:

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m., with a grace period until 8 a.m. the following day before the late penalty goes into effect. Late projects receive a 10% deduction per day up to one week, and projects are not accepted more than a week after the deadline. **Note that this policy only applies to major projects. Late work is not accepted for any reason on quizzes, activities, exams, or discussions.**

You are responsible for reading and understanding all grading feedback. You are welcome to ask questions about your grading feedback; however, I ask that you wait at least 24 hours after an

assignment has been returned to do so.

Quizzes

After completing the assigned reading each week, you will take a comprehension quiz. These are made of 4-8 short answer essay questions. The quizzes are timed and you will typically be allowed 20 minutes per question and one attempt at submission. Quizzes are always due on Sunday at 11:59 PM.

You are allowed to access the readings and course material during the quiz as needed, but I strongly advise that you stay off Google or any other websites outside the course. Even with the best of intentions to use the internet responsibly, you are putting yourself at a very high risk of accidental plagiarism by consulting the internet. Any academic dishonesty on a quiz will result in a zero for the quiz grade and will be subject to the academic integrity policy.

Perusall (Literature Annotations)

You will complete your reading of our most major texts in the course through the Literature Annotations assignments, which are completed in Perusall. Perusall is a social annotation platform where you will complete a multi-step assignment that may include videos, reading, and other media and provide annotations in small groups with your peers as part of our ongoing literary discussion. These graded assignments are scored on the quality of annotations and overall engagement, including some or all of the criteria below:

- Contributing thoughtful questions and comments to the class discussion, spread throughout the entire reading
- Starting the reading early
- Breaking the reading into chunks (instead of trying to do it all at once)
- Reading all the way to the end of the assigned reading
- Posing thoughtful questions and comments that elicit responses from classmates
- Answering questions from others
- Upvoting thoughtful questions and helpful answers

Reading and thinking critically about literature is the foundation of this course, and these assignments are the most important part of your coursework to start with each week. You are strongly encouraged to start these early and complete them over several days in order to be successful and get the best outcomes in your learning.

Blackboard

We will also use Blackboard in this course. You may access the Blackboard login page at southplainscollege.blackboard.com. Do not—under any circumstances—give your username and/or password to anyone else or allow anyone else to log in to your Blackboard account. Doing so will be viewed as academic dishonesty and will be treated as such.

If you need technical support for Blackboard, please contact the Instructional Technology Department at blackboard@southplainscollege.edu. Include your name, student ID, the name of the course you're taking, a description of the problem you are having.

Like all other areas of this course, there are no exceptions to the late work policy, for any reason, including technical difficulties.

Student Code of Conduct

Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct which disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Extra credit is available for students who carefully and thoroughly read the syllabus. In order to receive these extra points, email me a photo or link to a photo of your favorite animal and a fun fact about them. These points are for students who are still reading this document carefully at this point—do not disclose this opportunity to other students. They must find it on their own.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

It is the aim of the faculty at South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense. Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and/or an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Using Artificial Intelligence websites or apps to generate all or part of a paper or other assignment;
- Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another writer or from an online site;
- Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
- Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
- Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
- Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
- Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, texting, internet, Quizlet, etc.) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
- Entering an office or building to obtain unfair advantage;
- Taking an examination for another;
- Altering grade records;
- Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
- Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
- Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this course. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will automatically result in a 0 for the assignment and can, in many cases, result in getting dropped from the course with an F. Assignments that earn a zero for plagiarism cannot be made-up under any circumstances and will be reported to South Plains College.

Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced. Any evidence of AI through detection ratings or faculty review will be subject to further investigation. It is your responsibility as a student to demonstrate that your work is original in order to avoid penalties or plagiarism violations. I encourage all students to keep a comprehensive draft history and track changes in Microsoft Word as a precaution. This is the easiest way to prove authorship and protect your academic integrity in the age of AI. In many cases, work containing evidence of AI assistance will require a Zoom conference for an interview and proctored writing sample. These conferences will be recorded and reviewed by at least one other faculty member, and a determination will be made as to whether there is satisfactory evidence of authorship to earn credit.

SPC Tutors

Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! Visit the link below to learn more about how to book an appointment, view the tutoring schedule, get to know the tutors, and view tutoring locations.

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

Tutor.com

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with tutor.com each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, click on the tutor.com link on the left-hand tool bar and grab a session with a tutor. You can access tutor.com tutors during the following times:

Monday – Thursday: 8pm-8am

6pm Friday – 8am Monday morning

Disclaimer

Because we will use Blackboard to conduct a portion of this class, please note that the materials you may be accessing in chat rooms, bulletin boards, or unofficial web pages are not officially sponsored by South Plains College. The United States Constitution rights of free speech apply to all members of our community regardless of the medium used. We disclaim all liability for data, information or opinions expressed in these forums.

For information regarding Intellectual Exchange, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, use the following link: [Syllabus Statements \(southplainscollege.edu\)](http://southplainscollege.edu).
